UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/676,000	09/28/2000	CHRISTOPHER E. BARBER	CURL-005	2651

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EXAMINER
SONG, HOSUK

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2135	

DATE MAILED: 04/16/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/676,000	BARBER, CHRISTOPHER E.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Hosuk Song	2135

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *28 September 2000*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-25* is/are pending in the application.

  4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-7,9-14 and 18-25* is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) *8 and 15-17* is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

  Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

  Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

  a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

  1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

  2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

  3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

  * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *4,5*.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

1.   Claims 1-7,9-14,18-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Bloomberg (US 5,765,176) in view of Brundrett et al.(US 6,249,866).

Claim 1: Bloomberg discloses verifying signatures associated with component meta-data

and accepting a first meta-data supplement comprising a plurality of meta-data elements;

verifying signatures associated with the first meta-data supplement in (col.13,lines 21-50).

Bloomberg discloses authenticating the first meta-data supplement in (col.13,lines 44-48).

Bloomberg does not specifically disclose updating the meta-data elements associated the

component with values of the plurality of meta-data elements associated with the first meta-data

supplement. Brundrett's patent discloses updating the meta-data elements associated the

component with values of the plurality of meta-data elements associated with the first meta-data

supplement in (fig.13 and col.col.5,lines 1-4;col.7,lines 1-1-10). It would have been obvious to

person of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to update meta-data elements

associated the component with values of the plurality of meta-data elements associated with the

first meta-data supplement as taught in Brundrett with signature scheme associated with meta-

data disclosed in Bloomberg in order to ensure that update is only possible by authorized

personnel thus ensuring security of its meta-data elements from tampering.

Claims 2-4: Bloomberg disclose computing a digest of the content portion and decrypting the signature with a public key of the signer in (col.25,lines 23-25) and comparing the computed digest with the decrypted signature in (col.25,lines 26-36).

Claim 5: Bloomberg discloses verifying signatures associated with the second meta-data supplement and authenticating the second meta-data supplement in (col.13,lines 44-50). Bloomberg does not disclose sorting the first and second meta-data supplement. Official notice is taken that sorting process is well known in the art. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to use sorting process in order to enhance the performance of data processing.

Claims 6,7: Bloomberg discloses timestamp in (col.13,lines 37-44).

Claims 9-11,14: Bloomberg discloses accepting a digital component, the digital component comprising content and component meta-data in (col.13,lines 21-37). Bloomberg discloses accepting a first meta-data supplement, the first meta-data supplement comprising first target meta-data and first supplement meta-data in (col.12,lines 53-62;col.col.13,lines 44-50). Bloomberg does not disclose updating component meta-data with the first target meta-data. Brundrett's patent discloses updating component meta-data with the first target meta-data in (fig.13 and col.col.5,lines 1-4;col.7,lines 1-1-10). It would have been obvious to person of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to update component meta-data with the first target meta-data as taught in Brundrett with signature scheme associated with meta-data disclosed in Bloomberg in order to ensure that update is only possible by authorized personnel thus ensuring security of its meta-data elements from tampering.

Claims 12-13: Bloomberg does not disclose sorting the first and second meta-data supplement. Official notice is taken that sorting process is well known in the art. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to use sorting process in order to enhance the performance of data processing.

Claim 18: Bloomberg discloses storing the digital component and first meta-data supplement in a repository in (fig.5,7). Updating process is discussed in claims 1,9 above.

Claims 19-20: Bloomberg disclose storage device in (fig.13). Bloomberg disclose a server programmed to accept a digital component, the digital component comprising content and component meta-data in (col.13,lines 21-37). Bloomberg discloses accepting a first meta-data supplement, the first meta-data supplement comprising first target meta-data and first supplement meta-data in (col.12,lines 53-62;col.col.13,lines 44-50). Bloomberg does not disclose updating component meta-data with the first target meta-data. Brundrett's patent discloses updating component meta-data with the first target meta-data in (fig.13 and col.col.5,lines 1-4;col.7,lines 1-1-10). It would have been obvious to person of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to update component meta-data with the first target meta-data as taught in Brundrett with signature scheme associated with meta-data disclosed in Bloomberg in order to ensure that update is only possible by authorized personnel thus ensuring security of its meta-data elements from tampering.

Claim 21: Bloomberg does not disclose sorting the first and second meta-data supplement. Official notice is taken that sorting process is well known in the art. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to use sorting process in order to enhance the performance of data processing.

Claim 22: Bloomberg disclose server is programmed to verify digital signatures associated with the component and target meta-data in (col.13,lines 21-50).

Claim 23: Bloomberg discloses verifying signatures associated with component meta-data and accepting a first meta-data supplement comprising a plurality of meta-data elements; verifying signatures associated with the first meta-data supplement in (col.13,lines 21-50). Bloomberg discloses authenticating the first meta-data supplement in (col.13,lines 44-48).

Bloomberg does not specifically disclose updating the meta-data elements associated the component with values of the plurality of meta-data elements associated with the first meta-data supplement. Brundrett's patent discloses updating the meta-data elements associated the component with values of the plurality of meta-data elements associated with the first meta-data supplement in (fig.13 and col.col.5,lines 1-4;col.7,lines 1-1-10). It would have been obvious to person of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to update meta-data elements associated the component with values of the plurality of meta-data elements associated with the first meta-data supplement as taught in Brundrett with signature scheme associated with meta-data disclosed in Bloomberg in order to ensure that update is only possible by authorized personnel thus ensuring security of its meta-data elements from tampering.

Claims 24-25: Bloomberg discloses timestamp in (col.13,lines 37-44). Bloomberg does not disclose sorting process. Official notice is taken that sorting process is well known in the art. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to use sorting process in order to enhance the performance of data processing.

Allowable Subject Matter

2.   Claims 8,15-17 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.
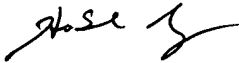
Conclusion

3.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hosuk Song whose telephone number is 703-305-0042. The examiner can normally be reached on Tue-Fri from 6:00 am to 4:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Kim Vu can be reached on 703-305-4393. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private

PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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